

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims below will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:**Claims 1-26 (Canceled)**

Claim 27 (Original) A method for the manufacture of implantable substrates for the healing and/or protection of connecting tissue, said substrate comprising:

a composition comprising biologically active factors (i), (ii), and (iii), wherein

(i) is a growth and differentiating factor,

(ii) is a chemotactic factor, and

(iii) is a cellular adhesion molecule; and

at least one structure for cell invasion in vivo and/or for the formation of cell matrix and/or for the release of constituents of the employed composition, wherein said structure comprises at least one constituent (a) to (f):

(a) a hydrogel,

(b) a compound selected from the group consisting of sponges, collagen sponges,

(c) a compound selected from the group consisting of wool, a cotton wool-like structure, wool made of polysaccharides, cellulose wool, and cellulose cotton wool,

(d) a compound selected from the group consisting of natural or synthetic polypeptides, fibrin, and polylysine,

(e) a compound selected from the group consisting of plaitings, knitted fabrics, woolen structures made of fibers, and fibers comprising resorbable polymers,

(f) a compound selected from the group consisting of cement pastes, acrylate cements, bonding sheets, and fibrinogen-covered hyaluronic acid foil,

comprising at least one of the following steps:

(i) bringing said structure into contact with at least said above defined composition

or

(ii) bringing said biologically active factors (i), (ii), and (iii) of said composition into contact with said above defined structure.

Claim 28 (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein said connecting tissue comprises cartilage.

Claim 29 (Original) The method according to claim 27, wherein the step of bringing said substrate into contact with said composition comprises bringing said structure into contact with at least one biologically active factor chosen from the group consisting of synthetic peptides, cytokines, and extra cellular matrix components.

Claim 30 (Original) The method of claim 29, characterized in that said connecting tissue comprises cartilage.

Claim 31 (Original) A method of healing and/or protection of connective tissue, comprising contacting said connective tissue with a substrate manufactured according to the method of claim 27.

Claim 32 (Original) A method of healing and/or protection of connective tissue, comprising contacting said connective tissue with a substrate manufactured according to the method of claim 29.

Claim 33 (Original) The method according to claim 31, wherein said connective tissue comprises cartilage, and the method further includes the step of producing connecting channels into the subchondral space of the cartilage before contacting said connective tissue with said substrate.

Claim 34 (Original) The method according to claim 32, wherein said connective tissue comprises cartilage, and the method further includes the step of producing connecting channels into the subchondral space of the cartilage before contacting said cartilage with said substrate.